Message Text

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O 071638Z JUN 78 ZFF4 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MANILA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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FOR EA ONLY, FOR AMBASSADOR MURPHY FROM OAKLEY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS

- 1. EITHER DIRECTLY WITH MARCOS, IF THERE IS AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY, OR THROUGH A SUITABLE INTERMEDIARY, I THINK YOU SHOULD CONVEY TO HIM THE MESSAGE THAT THE USG IS NOT ACTIVELY ENCOURAGING PHILIPPINE OPPOSITIONISTS TO SEEK ASYLUM IN THIS COUNTRY, NOR IS IT USG POLICY TO "LIONIZE" THEM AFTER THEY ARRIVE.
- 2. IN ADDITION TO THE QUESTIONS POSED ON THE PLANAS
 AFFAIR BY VER ON MAY 26 TO WHICH HERB RESPONDED VERY WELL,
 WE HAVE THE MACEDA PROBE (WHICH WE ARE NOT ENCOURAGING)
 AND THERE ARE REPORTS THAT INS DIRECTOR CASTILLO'S PRESENCE IN MANILA IS BEING MISCONSTRUED (PERHAPS DELIBERATELY SINCE HE TOLD MONJO HE WOULD AVOID GIVING ANY SUCH
 IMPRESSION) AS ENCOURAGING ASYLUM SEEKERS. WE ALSO HAVE
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RECENT INDICATION THAT HOUSE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MAY BE INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH PLANAS.

3. I TRIED TO EXPLAIN TO AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ, DURING ROMULO'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON ON JUNE 1, THAT WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEDE TO MS. PLANAS' REQUEST ONCE SHE REACHED MALAYSIA BECAUSE SHE WAS CHARGED WITH A CRIME

WHICH APPEARED BASICALLY POLITICAL AND CALLS FOR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THEREBY MEETING THE STIPULATION IN OUR REGULATIONS ABOUT A THREAT TO HER PERSON. I DO NOT KNOW TO WHAT EXTENT ROMUALDEZ MAY HAVE REPORTED THIS BACK, BUT IT IS A FACTOR OF WHICH THE GOP SHOULD BE COGNIZANT. RECENT MEETINGS BETWEEN MARCOS AND OPPOSITION LEADERS, AND RELEASE AND FREEING FROM CHARGES OF OVER 600 DEMONSTRATORS SHOULD ALTER PUBLIC PERCEPTION THAT OPPOSITION FIGURES ARE IN DANGER. (HOPEFULLY, FUTURE GOP ACTIONS WILL FURTHER EASE THE SITUATION.)

4. PLEASE NOTE FOR EA ONLY CAPTION.

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